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PROPOSED REGIONAL TECHNICAL

ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

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This report alerts U.S. firms to **US\$ 7.47 million** in new, potential procurement of consulting services under the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) technical assistance (TA) grant programs. Opportunities are reported for various ADB developing member countries in Asia and the Pacific. For 2005, U.S. firms, including many small consulting firms, succeeded in winning US\$46.26 million ADB-funded national technical assistance contracts out of a total ADB-financed consulting budget of US\$410.03 million.

The ADB selects a consultant for a TA grant based on its prior Expression of Interest (EOI). An EOI can be transmitted on-line through the ADB's website (www.adb.org); afterward it will be acknowledged automatically. Firms may opt to send a hardcopy follow-up EOI addressed to Mr. Robert S. Robertson, Director, Consulting Services Division, with a copy to the ADB Project Officer. The EOI should relate a firm's experience and expertise to the ADB project. It is important for a U.S. firm to emphasize similar project experience in the country or in a similar geographic area rather than present a general profile of its consulting activities. A separate EOI should be submitted for each project. The project name indicated in the EOI should exactly match that listed in the ADB Business Opportunities publication to avoid confusion.

To be considered for employment, consulting firms must register on the ADB's DACON (Data on Consulting Firms) system or, for individual consultants, on the DICON (Data on Individual Consultants) system; otherwise, their EOIs will not be accepted. DACON and DICON registration can be done on-line at www.adb.org/consulting.

ADB's DACON (http://www.adb.org/Consulting/dacon.asp) is a database of firms and other organizations from the ADB's member countries that are qualified to provide consulting services for ADB projects. The DACON contains information on the experience and capacity of the firms and organizations. ADB requires firms or organizations to register on the DACON so that the ADB can consider them for short-listing for a technical assistance project. The term "firm or organization" covers all sources of consultants, such as consulting firms, government agencies, public sector organizations, national and international institutions and non-government organizations.

The DICON (http://www.adb.org/Consulting/dicon.asp) system contains the names of persons who are citizens of ADB's member countries; are at the forefront of their respective fields; and may be practicing consultants or employees whose organizations are prepared to release them for short periods to serve ADB; or retired persons with special experience who are still active.

Firms may also send a notification copy of their EOIs to the U.S. mailing address for the U.S. Commercial Service Liaison Office to the ADB, Attention: Cecile Santos, Senior Commercial Specialist, PSC 500 Box 33, FPO AP 96515-1000, or to the same office at its international mailing address: 25th Floor Ayala Life-FGU Center, 6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines 1226; Phone: (63-2) 887-1345; Fax: (63-2) 887-1164; E-mail: mainla.adb.office.box@mail.doc.gov. Information about these projects are likewise available on our website at http://www.buyusa.gov/adb. This office works closely with the Office of the U.S. Executive Director to the ADB to increase American awareness of, and participation in, the ADB's activities.

The projects listed in this report are now being actively processed by the ADB. For more information on these projects, the name of the ADB project officer is indicated in the project brief. The U.S Commercial Service Liaison Office is ready to provide assistance to U.S. firms upon request.

The following technical assistance projects are reprinted with permission from the Asian Development Bank, from the ADB Website (http://www.adb.org) and appeared for the first time in June 2006. For more information on development in Asia and the Pacific, see http://www.adb.org>.

REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT JULY 2006

A. Project Name : Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land

Management (CACILM) Multicountry Partnership

Framework Support Project

Project No. : REG 38464-01

Executing Agency: Asian Development Bank

TA Amount : US\$ 4,025,000.00

Activity Type : Others

Objectives and Scope:

The impact of the CACILM Multi-country Partnership Framework (CMPF) is expected to be the restoration, maintenance, and enhancement of the productivity of land in the Central Asian countries (CACs), leading to improved economic and social well-being of those who depend on these resources, while preserving the environmental functions of the land. This impact cannot be achieved without the underlying support activities that will ensure successful implementation of the programs contained in the national programming frameworks formulated under CACILM. Partnership framework support is necessary for the implementation of the national programs to be done in a way that ensures a comprehensive and integrated approach to sustainable land management across the CACs.

Consulting Services: A CACILM secretariat will be created to support the CACILM Steering Committee. The CACILM secretariat will require the services of international consultants (32 person months) and national consultants (112 person months). Consultants will be engaged individually by ADB in accordance with the Guidelines for the Use of Consultants by the Asian Development Bank and Its Borrowers, and other arrangements satisfactory to ADB for the recruitment of local consultants. Equipment for the CACILM secretariat and the national secretariat offices will be procured according to ADB Procurement Guidelines.

Project Processing Stage: Board Circulation: Jul 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place on 07 July 2006.

Project Officer : Robert Everitt

Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources Division

Central Asia Department Tel.: (63-2) 632-6719 Email: reveritt@adb.org

B. Project Name : Partnership on Persistent Organic Pollutants Pesticides

Management for Cotton Production in Central Asia and

Caucasus Countries

Project No. : REG 40040-01

Executing Agency: Asian Development Bank

TA Amount : US\$ 400,000.00

Activity Type : Study

Objectives and Scope:

The goal of the project is to protect human health and the environment by eliminating Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) pesticides in cotton crop through implementation of alternative pest management systems and adoption of innovative financial mechanisms for cleaning up contaminated sites in the participating countries. These efforts will eventually reduce poverty in the rural area of Central Asia and Caucasus (CAC) region by improving the productivity and removing a trade barrier. The project's purpose is to design a cost effective, institutional sound and financially sustainable program in participating countries of CAC region aiming for (a) introduction of alternative pest management practices, especially the IPM practice and biotech cotton technology; (b) monitoring of their effectiveness for cotton pest management; (c) developing a long-term funding mechanism (e.g., environmental fund) for the clean-up and management of sites contaminated with POPs pesticides.

Consulting Services: Consulting services yet to be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Staff Review Committee (SRC) Meeting: July 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: To be determined.

Project Officer: Robert Everitt

Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources Division

Central Asia Department Tel.: (63-2) 632-6719 Email: reveritt@adb.org

C. Project Name : Youth and Development Seminar for the 40th Annual

Meeting

Project No. : REG 40123-01

Executing Agency: Asian Development Bank

TA Amount : US\$ 150,000.00

Activity Type : Others

Objectives and Scope:

The goal is to showcase at the 40th Annual Meeting in Kyoto, Japan the insights of youth from Asia and the Pacific concerning sustainable issues in the region. The purpose is to organize and support a mechanism that will competitively select essays on development topics from youth in the region that are outstanding in terms of their content and presentation for presentation at the Annual Meeting.

Consulting Services: No consulting services required.

Project Processing Stage: Submission for the President's Consideration: September

2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: No consulting services required.

Project Officer: Bartlet W. Edes

NGO and Civil Society Center

Tel.: (63-2) 632-6751 Email: bedes@adb.org

D. Project Name : Public Sector Accounting Standards (3rd Phase)

Project No. : REG 39250-01

Executing Agency: International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board,

International Federation of Accountants

TA Amount : US\$ 245,000.00 Activity Type : Conference

Objectives and Scope:

The objective of the technical assistance (TA) is to provide further support to International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB) of International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) in developing and issuing a series of accounting guidelines and standards to enhance financial reporting, accounting and auditing of the public sector in DMCs.

Consulting Services: No consulting services are required.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission to be scheduled.

Recruitment of Consultants: No consulting services required.

Project Officer: Huang Heging

Disbursement Section 5 Tel.: (63-2) 632-4556 Email: hhuang@adb.org

E. Project Name : Strengthening Financial Management and

Accountability in PDMCs

Project No. : REG 38639-01

Executing Agency: Asian Development Bank

Contact: Barry Reid

Address: Pacific Department, 6 ADB Ave., Ortigas Center

Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Tel. No.: (63-2) 636-6136; Fax. No.: (63-2) 636-2446

E-mail: breid@adb.org

South Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions

Secretariat Contact: Hayden Everett

Address: Office of the Control and Auditor-General

Level 5, Hitachi House, 48 Mulgrave Street

Wellington, New Zealand

Tel. No.: (64-4) 917-1502; Fax. No.: (64-4) 917-1509

E-mail: hayden.everett@oag.govt.nz

TA Amount : US\$ 1,000,000.00

Activity Type : Others

Objectives and Scope:

The technical assistance (TA) will support the efforts of PDMCs and their development partners, including ADB, to meet commitments made under the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. Specifically, the TA will contribute to: (i) more timely, transparent and reliable government financial reporting; and (ii) strengthened project financial management arrangements which are harmonized among development partners and aligned, where possible, with country PFM systems.

Consulting Services: Component 1: Pacific Regional Audit Initiative: Preliminary Consulting Estimates: Phase 1 activities will be contracted to an individual Public Auditing Consultant (2 person-months of international consulting services). Phase 2 and 3 activities will be contracted to a consulting firm, which will supply 31 person-months of international consulting services. The firm will also conduct 3 workshops for SPASAI members. The firm will have relevant Pacific experience and will provide experts in public auditing, education and professional qualifications, information technology and legal. Component 2: Project Financial Management: Consulting services have yet to be determined, but on a preliminary basis it is envisaged that 1-2 individual consultants will be contracted for 6-12 months, with project financial management experience in the Pacific region with multiple donors.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission completed: 26 May 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: The recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in September-November 2006.

Project Officer : Barry Reid

Pacific Operations Division Tel.: (63-2) 632-6136 Email: breid@adb.org

F. Project Name : Asia 2015: High Level Conference Follow-up (Asia

Regional Aid Effectiveness Workshop)

Project No. : REG 39600-02

Executing Agency: Asian Development Bank

TA Amount : US\$ 150,000.00

Activity Type : Conference

Objectives and Scope:

Workshop Objectives 1. To assess progress in implementation of the Paris agenda 2. To identify lessons learnt, best practices, challenges and practical constraints 3. To identify concrete next steps to be taken by countries and external partners Main points of discussion Participants will discuss: 1. Initial results of the 2006 monitoring survey of the Paris Declaration to be completed in September 2. Concrete country case studies of specific initiatives to facilitate lesson learning and detailed examination of what is working and what changes are needed where initiatives are less than successful.

Consulting Services: Consulting services yet to be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission in Field: 1 May 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Requirements for consulting services to be completed during Fact-finding Mission

Project Officer : Shahid N. Zahid

Strategic Planning, Policy, and Interagency Relations

Tel.: (63-2) 632-5961 Email: szahid@adb.org

G. Project Name : Support for Strengthening the Tsunami Development

Assistance Database

Project No.:REG 40157-01Executing Agency:To be determined.TA Amount:US\$ 800,000.00

Activity Type : Training

Objectives and Scope:

The technical assistance (TA) will strengthen transparency, accountability and efficiency in tsunami recovery programs by helping tsunami-affected countries exercise effective leadership over external assistance. Specifically, the TA will consolidate the progress made in tracking tsunami aid and results, increase data comprehensiveness and accuracy, and provide analytical products that support better decision-making and resource allocation.

Consulting Services: A. DAD Technical Backstopping * Database Consultant - international, 6 person-months B. National Capacity Development and Quality Control * Aid Coordination Consultant, working within RADA, Colombo - international, 6 personmonths * Aid Coordination Consultant, working within the BRR, Aceh - international, 12 person-months * Aid Coordination Consultants, working within the Govts. of Maldives and Thailand - 2 internationals, 6 person-months each) * Coordination Officers seconded to BRR, Aceh - 9 nationals, 12 person-months * National Database Manager seconded to BRR, Aceh (national, 12 person-months C. Regional Technical Backstopping * Regional

Tsunami Aid Coordination Adviser - international, 12 person-months * Regional Tsunami Aid Tracking Analyst - international, 6 person-months * Lessons Learned Researcher - 3 person-months * Regional Tsunami Private Sector Coordinator - international, 6 person-months * Practice Team Assistant - national, 12 person-months

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission to be scheduled.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of Consultants expected to take place during the third quarter of 2006.

Project Officer : Robert J. Dobias

Gender, Social Development and Civil Society Division

Tel.: (63-2) 632-6783 Email: <u>rjdobias@adb.org</u>

H. Project Name : Regional Technical Assistance for External Advisory

Panel on the Future of the Asia-Pacific Region

Project No. : REG 40155-01
Executing Agency : To be determined.
US\$ 700,000.00

Activity Type : Others

Objectives and Scope:

The technical assistance's (TA) objective is to obtain: i) insights into the current and future operational context of ADB, emerging opportunities and challenges in the region in particular, from a group of distinguished public and private sector leaders; and ii) derive from them guiding principles that can be shared with ADB stakeholders for reviewing the LTSF with the aim to maintain ADB's operational relevance and efficacy as a regional development bank.

Consulting Services: A. An internationally recruited consultant with expertise in strategic planning, policy development, and stakeholder consultation processes will be engaged for 4 person-months. B. A national consultant will render 8 person-months of services to assist the international consultant, the members of the eminent persons group, and the project officer.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission to be scheduled.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in September 2006.

Project Officer : Kazu Sakai

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Email: <u>ksakai@adb.org</u>